GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2748
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2004
SHORTAGE OF DRINKING WATER IN A N ISLANDS
Bhakta Shri Manoranjan

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andaman and Nicobar Islands is facing acute shortage of drinking water;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of total water supply availability in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(d) whether the proposals for Flat Bay Water Supply Scheme and Rutland Island Water Drawing Scheme are lying pending with the Union Government for a long time;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the time by which the proposals are likely to be cleared?

Answer

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a)&(b): A&N Administration has informed that there is no acute shortage of water, although shortage of drinking water is experienced in some areas of the islands during the peak summer season between mid-February and mid-May. There is shortage because of less/no rainfall resulting in less yield to streams/nallahs.

(c): A&N Administration has reported that the daily average supply in the city of Port Blair is 240 lakh litres against the daily requirement of 300 lakh litres. In other areas, water is supplied from nearby sources such as streams, nallahs, dug-wells, etc.

(d)to(f): No, Sir. The proposals are not pending with this Ministry. A & N Administration have reported that Detailed Project Report (DPR) on Flat Bay Scheme submitted to Ministry has been returned for some additional clarifications on the effect on Mangrove Forest. Further survey is being done by A & N Administration to ascertain the zero effect of Mangrove Forest. However, the DPR for raising the height of Dhanikhari Dam to augment water supply in Port Blair Municipal Area, which was submitted to Ministry of Water Resources for approval is awaited.